

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 H-02 OMB-01 DIWY-01 PA-02

PRS-01 USIA-15 SIL-01 LAB-04 SR-02 ORM-01 SCSE-00

SCA-01 /075 W

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R 181400Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1539

INFO USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

UNCLAS NICOSIA 1381

MONTREAL FOR ICAO, PARIS FOR UNESCO, ROME FOR FODAG,
VIENNA FOR LAEA AND UNIDO

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, UNDP CY ECRP

SUBJECT: CERP 0008 - EVALUATION OF UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

REF: STATE 64907

1. BACKGROUND. EMBASSY CONTACTS WITH UNDP HAVE BEEN MINIMAL SINCE THE COUP D'ETAT AND TURKISH INVASION OF SUMMER 1974. SINCE THEN UNDP HAS CONCENTRATED ON ITS PRE-COUP, PRE-INVASION PROJECTS LOCATED IN SOUTHERN PART OF ISLAND. THIS APPROACH HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT CYPRUS UNDP IS NOT, BY CHARTER OR BY LOCAL CAPABILITY, GEARED TO PROVIDE QUICK REACTION EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE. UNDP APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN LEFT OUT OF ACTION. IN CONTRAST, GOC, UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSISTED BY UNHCR AND ICRC MISSIONS, MOVED EXPEDITIOUSLY

LAST SUMMER TO MOBILIZE RESOURCES.

2. WITH SITUATION ON CYPRUS STABILIZED SOMEWHAT, UNDP IS TRYING TO COME BACK AS ACTIVE PARTNER IN PLANNING AND PRE-INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE. IT HAS MET WITH ADDITIONAL DIFFICULTIES FOR THREE REASONS:

A) FIRST, UNDP IS NOT ORGANIZED TO REACT QUICKLY TO NEW SPECIAL NEEDS OF CONTEMPORARY CYPRUS. FOR INSTANCE, IN RELATIVELY SMALL REFORESTATION STUDY TO DESIGN PROJECT TO SAVE WAR-DAMAGED FORESTS FROM DISEASE AND ROT, UNDP CONTRIBUTION HAS BEEN SLOW IN COMING WITH NO FIRM COMPLETION DATE IN SIGHT.

B) SECOND, UNDP IS REQUIRED BY AGREEMENT WITH GOC TO COORDINATE ALL ACTIVITIES WITH GOVERNMENT PLANNING BUREAU. THIS BINDS UNDP TO OPERATING ONLY IN SOUTH, THEREBY LEAVING OUT TURKISH CONTROLLED NORTH, 40 PERCENT OF ISLAND'S TERRITORY. THIS HANDICAP IS MORE SERIOUS THAN APPEARS ON SURFACE; IT MEANS UNDP CANNOT ACT AS CATALYST FOR IMPORTANT PROJECTS REQUIRING COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO SIDES. THESE INCLUDE ALL PREVIOUSLY IBRD SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES IN NORTH AS WELL AS SUCH ISLANDWIDE ACTIVITIES AS ANIMAL, PLANT, AND HUMAN DISEASE CONTROL PROJECTS.

C) THIRD, UNDP HAS THUS FAR BEEN UNABLE TO PURSUE FULLY ITS TRADITIONAL ROLE AS PRE-INVESTMENT ADVISOR. UNTIL A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IS REACHED, ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN SOUTH WILL PROBABLY TEND MORE TOWARDS REACTIVATION OR REHABILITATION, ACTIVITIES PRIMARILY IN REALM OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES.

3. FINALLY, CYPRUS IS ALREADY HIGHLY DEVELOPED IN MANY RESPECTS COMPARED TO OTHER UNDP CLIENTS. A REVIEW OF RELEVANT STATISTICS SUGGESTS AN ADVANCED ECONOMY AND A SOPHISTICATED SOCIETY. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT GOC HAS ABILITY TO PERFORM MANY FUNCTIONS UNDP TRADITIONALLY ASSUMES. FOR EXAMPLE, GOC PLANNING BUREAU IS A MOST CAPABLE BODY IN ITS OWN RIGHT.

4. CERP COMMENTS. WITH FOREGOING AS BACKGROUND, EMBASSY UNCLASSIFIED

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VIEWS REGARDING REFTEL TOPICS (A) THROUGH (I) FOLLOW, KEYED BY PARAGRAPH:

PARA (A): RESIDENT REP APPEARS TO PLAY COORDINATING ROLE FOR ALL UN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE EXCEPT UNHCR AND WFP OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF PERSONS DISPLACED AS RESULT OF LAST YEAR'S EVENTS. UNDP AND IBRD UNDERTAKINGS APPEAR COORDINATED.

PARA (B): WE ARE NOT FULLY INFORMED ON MECHANISM FOR COORDINATION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. HOST GOVERNMENT APPEARS TO HAVE INITIATIVE ON MOST FRONTS.

PARA (C): RESIDENT REP SEEMS TO PLAY NO PART WHATEVER IN OTHER UN ACTIVITIES. SPECIAL CYPRUS SITUATION REGARDING REFUGEES IS HANDLED BY A FIRST RATE UNHCR MISSION AND COMPETENT ICRC GROUP. "REFUGEE" SITUATION ON ISLAND SHOULD BE MORE CORRECTLY TERMED PROBLEM OF DISPLACED PERSONS. SINCE EVENTS OF LAST SUMMER SOME 180,000 GREEK CYPRIOTS AND 30-50,000 TURK CYPRIOTS HAVE BEEN DISPLACED OR HAVE MOVED ON THEIR OWN VOLITION TO NEW LOCATIONS. WHILE PROBLEM IS MAINLY ONE OF GREEK CYPRIOTS NOW IN SOUTH, RELATED PROBLEM OF DISPLACED TURK CYPRIOTS (SOME DATING BACK TO 1963) IN NORTH ALSO EXISTS. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE BE PROVIDED IN NORTH AS WELL AS SOUTH. UNHCR AND ICRC OPERATE IN BOTH AREAS. UNDP, AS NOTED ABOVE, CAN ONLY OPERATE IN GOC-CONTROLLED SOUTH.

PARA (D) AND (E): WE ARE NOT ABLE TO RESPOND TO ANNUAL REVIEW QUESTION. OFFICER PREVIOUSLY IN CHARGE OF MAINTAINING LIAISON WITH UNDP DEPARTED IN DEC 1974 WITHOUT OVERLAP WITH SUCCESSOR. ECONOMIC SECTION WAS SACKED IN JAN 1975 BY DEMONSTRATORS AND MOST OF SECTION'S FILES BURNT. SINCE JANUARY EMBASSY KNOWS OF NO INVITATIONS BY UNDP FOR EMBASSY COMMENT ON PROJECT PROPOSALS. EMBASSY CONTACTS WITH UNDP SINCE EVENTS OF LAST SUMMER HAVE BEEN SCANT AS RESULT OF COUP, WAR CRISIS AND EMBASSY CONCENTRATION ON REFUGEE PROBLEM. UNDP HAS FOUND ITSELF ALMOST WHOLLY LEFT OUT OF INTERNATIONAL AID PICTURE SINCE LAST YEAR BUT APPEARS NOW TO BE TRYING TO PROVIDE INPUTS INTO NEW SITUATION IN THE SOUTH.

PARA (F): QUESTION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF ON-GOING PROJECTS DIFFICULT TO ANSWER. WE UNDERSTAND THAT IN FEW INSTANCES WHERE IT WAS ASKED FOR SPECIAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REGARDING REFUGEE UNCLASSIFIED

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RELIEF, UNDP WAS NOT ABLE TO RESPOND QUICKLY. HOWEVER, GOC SEEMS CONTENT WITH UNDP AND PLANS TO CONTINUE TO WORK IN CONJUNCTION ON CERTAIN PROJECTS. EMBASSY HAS INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION TO COMMENT ON PARAGRAPHS (G), (H), AND (I). CRAWFORD

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